

**Regular Meeting #48 - 2019
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
November 12, 2019**

Review

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. to review legal issues and pending or future action items and correspondence. Commissioner Levacy called the meeting to order with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Dave Levacy, and Jeff Fix. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Tony Vogel, Todd McCullough, Lt. Churchill, Amy Brown-Thompson, Tom Lininger, Josh Horacek, Jeff Porter, Loudan Klein, Mark Conrad, Jim Bahnsen, Jake Tharp, Dennis Keller, Logan Weaver, Aunie Cordle, Jeremiah Upp, Jon Slater, Branden Meyer, Jon Kochis, Judge Terre Vandervoort, and Juvenile/Probate Court Clerks.

- Welcome
- Legal Update

Mr. Horacek provided an update about the pre-conference for the annexation hearing. The pre-conference is scheduled November 19th at 5 pm. The attorneys for the developer and the Lancaster City Law Director are expected to attend. Greenfield Township's legal council is not expected to attend. Mr. Horacek is finishing up a memo and will have that to the Commissioners soon.

Mr. Davis stated he would attend the pre-conference. A decision needs to be made within 30 days and is calendared for a vote by the Commission on December 17th.

Mr. Horacek stated that finding of fact must be included in the resolution and that he will work with the Clerk to make sure those are included.

The Commissioners received notice of the publication made in the local media (Lancaster Eagle-Gazette) about the hearing on November 19th.

The hearing is scheduled for November 19th at 6 pm.

- Administration and Budget Update/Carri's List

a. Announcements

Open enrollment for the county is going very well. Thanks to HR and all employees for their cooperation.

November 14 – Commissioner Davis to meet with the Bar Association (draft resolution prepared for discussion)

November 15 – FCFACF Annual Breakfast

November 19 – Public Hearing re: Annexation

November 19 – Meeting with Licking County Commissioners re: MCJDC

November 21 – Elected Official and Department Head Roundtable

November 21 – Children Services Transformation Advisory Council – COTC at 8660 E. Broad Street, Pataskala 6 pm – 8 pm – The advisory group is aimed at improving the state's foster care system; they will be issuing recommendations no later than April 2020.

November 23 – National Adoption Day – Juvenile Court

November 28, 29 – Thanksgiving Holiday – Offices are Closed

December 8 – Township Association Meeting

December 10 – Holiday Open House

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December 24 – Close at Noon

December 25 – Christmas Holiday

Ms. Cordle announced that the Governor has asked to highlight an adoptive family from Fairfield County. She will provide more information as it is available.

b. Highlights of Resolutions

Dr. Brown provided a summary of 15 resolutions for the voting meeting.

We were excited to honor National Adoption Month with a proclamation. Thank you to everyone at Child Protective Services for their work with adoptive parents. Thanks to the many people in the community who are part of the effort to support adopted children and their forever families.

The County Engineer proposed a resolution to approve the construction drawings for the BER-34, FAI-CR154-0.687 Sugar Grove Road over the Hocking River guardrail improvement project.

RPC proposed a resolution to approve a memorandum of understanding between the Board of Education of the Bloom-Carroll Local School District, the Fairfield County Commissioners, and the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission for sidewalk construction, following approval by the RPC at their November meeting.

There were financial and grant related resolutions to approve, such as:

- A resolution accepting Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and State Victims Assistance Act (SVAA) Grants for October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, grants to be administered by the County Prosecutor;
- A resolution to resolve residual equity for inactive funds of County Utilities;
- Two repayments of advances for grants by JFS;
- Account to account transfers of appropriations to properly classify expenditures for the FCFACF Council, the Dog Adoption Center and Shelter, and the Clerk of Courts;
- Appropriations from unappropriated funds for JFS, EMA, and for FCFACF Council;
- A budget adjustment relating to CFLP operations; and
- The payment of bills.

In queue, there were several financial and contracting resolutions. For example, JFS will propose two contracts for protective placement in network and two agreements for services with Functional Training soon. We also have a license for use in queue.

c. Administrative, Program, and Budget Update

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contained a list of administrative approvals, and no questioned were posed.

We have worked with the Major Crimes Unit to be supportive of their grant processes, and we are able to receive grant funding for partial rent in the future, with the remainder of the market value of rent noted as an in-kind contribution from the county.

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We are in process of reviewing a master agreement with Enterprise for fleet management and equity leases, of which Delaware County's agreement is under review as a model. Departments will have an ability to participate in maintenance and/or lease plans, which will have different elements depending on departmental needs. For example, JFS has been evaluating this option and finds it useful for their operational needs and funding restrictions; Major Crimes Unit is also approaching an agreement. The Sheriff, Utilities, and others will have opportunity to review options and to contract for services under the master agreement (s) if desired, as we understand things. We will continue to review options.

JFS Protective Services is beginning to collect holiday donations for those who wish to contribute.

Regarding the license for use for the all accessible park near Forest Rose School, Dr. Brown sent email to Terry McGhee requesting an update on the party to provide the license for use, and we now have that information.

Budget Update

We will continue to monitor revenues and expenditures.

Performance assessments are due November 30 (unless negotiated otherwise).

November 25th is the deadline for final access to budget entry (level 4).

The projected date to pass the appropriation measure is December 10, with a back-up date of December 17.

Dr. Brown reported that there was a follow up meeting with Dr. Varney and others regarding the Coroner's budget, and we await some additional information in order to adjust the 2020 projection.

Walnut Township is interested in borrowing money (approximately \$100,000) with internal debt from the county as a grant match for their Emergency Shelter. We will hear more about that in the coming weeks.

As previously discussed, we will be converting internal debt to external debt for the Airport.

Workforce Center Update

On November 7th, members of an advisory committee for the Fairfield County Workforce Center met to review plans for the center's opening. The advisory committee consists of leaders from Fairfield County, Lancaster, Canal Winchester, Violet Township, Ohio University, Hocking College, the Fairfield County Port Authority, and business stakeholders. The advisory committee's purpose is to advise leadership on the development, operations, and programming for the center. A December 2019 opening is planned to assist Magna Seating Columbus with hiring and training.

Additional training will be available in 2020 when programming plans are finalized and coordinated with Ohio University and Hocking College. The Magna related training is supported by the state budget with appropriations of \$1.25 Million, which will pass through the Fairfield County Port Authority and will be governed by an agreement with the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The Fairfield County Commissioners own and support the center's operations. The investment with county funds is to further the purposes of economic and workforce development. The Fairfield County Commissioners are seeking additional grant funding to leverage local resources. In the future, the center might also serve as a business incubator or co-working space.

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The Fairfield County Workforce Center is located at 4465 Coonpath Road in Carroll.

The 72,000 square-foot building provides industrial and classroom space, as well as office space through mid-2020 for Fairfield County Developmental Disabilities, who previously used the building as an Opportunity Center.

JFS Holiday Donation Drive

Mr. Levacy asked Ms. Cordle for an update on the Holiday Donation Drive and noted that the EG has been helpful in the past with helping spread the word.

Ms. Cordle stated it was a community effort with over 200 individuals (youth and seniors) served last year. The donations come from individuals, schools, hospitals, churches, and other community groups. There will also be a "giving tree" in the lobby of the first floor of the Administrative Court House.

d. November 21st Roundtable

The Board of County Commissioners will be hosting an elected officials and department head roundtable meeting on November 21 at 8:30 a.m. in the hearing room. A draft agenda was in the review packet.

Dr. Brown received a call from Mr. Jim Shaw with the Attorney General's Office indicating he was interested in attending the roundtable meeting, and he thought it was a great idea for counties to hold such meetings. Mr. Shaw is going to share information about the meeting with others.

e. BRAVOs

Congratulations to Jennifer Sosniak, Social Services Worker 2 at JFS, for earning an international award in honor of her professionalism. She has earned the Safe and Together Champion Award for Excellence in Case Practice from the Safe and Together Institute. Case Stanton nominated her!

Thank you to the Major Crimes Unit for their thoughtful planning for the federal monitoring visit regarding project FORT. They are doing a great job. In February 2020, we will receive an update from the MCU.

Good luck to the FCFACF as they plan their annual breakfast to be held on Friday, November 15. Thanks to Staci Knisley, Shar Bails, and Christina Foster as they work on ways to administratively support the FCFACF.

Judge Vandervoort thanked the Juvenile/Probate Clerks for the hard work they have accomplished in cleaning up Drew Shoe and preparing for records to be stored at the Records Center. She noted this was the most overwhelming aspect of her job and is proud of the work the entire office has done.

- **Old Business**

a. MCJDC

Mr. Davis traveled to Licking County to meet with Commissioner Bubb. The meeting was very productive, and they reported out at the MCJDC meetings on November 8th. The framework may present a path forward on the short horizon. At the joint meeting with the Licking County Commissioners next Tuesday, Commissioner Davis noted they will discuss the outline of the agreement and any "dangling modifiers". The current idea is for Fairfield County to contribute \$800,000 for 2020 (as planned) and \$600,000 for 2021 and 2022. The years beyond 2022 will be addressed later after a great deal of data is gathered. Mr. Davis is as encouraged as he has ever been.

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b. Court Appointed Attorney Fees

Mr. Davis stated that the Commissioners asked to speak at the Bar Association meeting on November 14th with a plan to present a “thank you” to the court appointed attorneys by offering to increase the out of court hourly reimbursement rate from \$40 an hour to \$50 an hour and increasing the caps. The plan went off the rails when the Commission found out the Bar Association was going to introduce a resolution to request the fees be increased to \$75 an hour. Mr. Davis has spoken with many attorneys and judges. The resolution is going to be referred to a subcommittee led by Jason Price. Mr. Davis is hopeful the Commission’s kindness will be well received on Thursday. He has spoken to the judiciary. There is a great number of nuances and complexities yet to address.

Mr. Davis asked Judge Vandervoort if her rule was bound by the Commissioner’s reimbursement guidelines.

Judge Vandervoort replied they would stay in line with the county.

Mr. Davis also asked how her list of indigent guardian attorneys was.

Judge Vandervoort replied it was tight and a slim list, but the Guardianship Service Board should lighten that load a bit.

c. Art Center Feasibility Study

Dr. Brown reported the Art Center Feasibility Study was starting today with a comprehensive report expected in the first quarter of next year.

Mr. Davis stated that this has been discussed for several years. The concept has evolved into a realistic and modest project. He looks forward to seeing the results.

• New Business

a. Request from the City of Lancaster

Dr. Brown reported the City of Lancaster (through conversations with Mayor Scheffler) requested the county explore replacing two streetlights that were damaged and removed several years ago. In replacing the streetlights, which the county had been helpful to the City in the past, there are options. For example, at the same time, we could retrofit the lights with LED lights. There are four basic options.

- Option 1 – Two poles with existing lighting (amber) - \$11,172.48
- Option 2 – Two poles with LED lighting (this would be mismatched lighting, and we do not favor this) - \$12,150.70
- Option 3 – Two poles, and all LED lighting - \$15,310.24
- Option 4 – No action now / continued review

We want to consider this for the 2020 budget. At present, there is no inclusion in the budget for this specific purpose.

Mr. Keller stated the lights were part of the right of way and he was told the Commission paid to extend the lights up to Pearl Street many years ago.

Mr. Fix asked if they were the city’s responsibility.

Mr. Upp replied they were.

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Mr. Davis stated he was involved on the city's side when this happened. At that time, the relationship between the city and county was contentious. Compromises were reached including this one. While the county has not installed lights in other townships, villages, or cities, they have been helpful to them in other ways. He personally wants to take this matter under advisement and think about it as a number of items are coming up in the next few weeks.

Mr. Fix appreciated the update as he was trying to understand the relationship. He too, will take it under advisement.

Mr. Keller added that the city would do all the installation work. He would like to see the project done as it will be beneficial to those within the county buildings.

Commissioner Levacy agreed and suggested the Commission continue to review the matter.

b. Meeting with the Lancaster Historic Commission

On November 20th, Carri Brown, Dennis Keller, and Terri Meconis will be meeting with The Lancaster Historic Commission about a potential art project (mural) to honor patriots and veterans. The art project is envisioned to be placed on the wall facing west at the Amstutz building, the former location for Veteran Services and the current location for the Supervised Visitation Center.

- General Correspondence Received (none)
- Calendar Review/Invitations Received
 - a. Pickerington Chamber Lunch – Thursday, November 21st at 11:30 a.m.
 - 1. Commissioner Fix will attend. Rick Szabrak will be presenting.
 - b. Bremen Chamber Annual Dinner – Thursday, November 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Bremen Area Historical Society
 - 1. Commissioner Fix will attend.
- FYI
 - a. Jail Population – 306
- Open Items (none)

Commissioner Levacy stated at 9:41 a.m. that the Commission would be in recess until the 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting.

Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Steve Davis, Jeff Fix, and Dave Levacy. Also present were Carri Brown, Rachel Elsea, Staci Knisley, Aunie Cordle, Dennis Keller, Tony Vogel, Todd McCullough, Josh Horacek, Amy Brown-Thompson, Tom Lininger, Jim Bahnsen, JFS Child Protective Services staff, Lt Churchill, Branden Meyer, Jake Tharp, Logan Weaver, Jon Kochis, Loudan Klein, Rick Szabrak, Jeff Porter, and Judge Vandervoort.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Levacy asked everyone to rise as able, and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Announcements

Commissioner Levacy asked if there were any announcements.

Public Comment

Commissioner Levacy asked if anyone from the public who would like to speak or offer comments.

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes for Tuesday, November 5, 2019

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for the Tuesday, November 5, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Clerk of Court - Legal Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Clerk of Court – Legal resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major object expense category – Clerk of Courts – Legal; see resolution 2019-11.12.a.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Commissioners Resolutions

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Commissioners' Office resolutions:

2019-11.12.b A resolution authorizing the approval of a proclamation [Commissioners]

2019-11.12.c A resolution for approval and a signature needed by Fairfield County
Commissioner David Levacy, on the CFLP Solid Waste District Recycling
Services Contract 2019 Program/Budget Revision Request. [Community
Action]

Discussion: Dr. Brown stated the resolution for the proclamation was recognizing National Adoption Month. She thanked Mr. Henwood and his team along with Judge Vandervoort and Ms. Cordle. Adoption day will be on November 23rd with four families adopting seven youth.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Dog Shelter Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Dog Shelter resolution approving an account to account transfer; see resolution 2019-11.12.d.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Emergency Management Agency Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Emergency Management Agency resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in a

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major expenditure object category EMA 2091 Emergency Management Agency Local Emergency Planning Committee Fund; see resolution 2019-11.12.e.

Discussion: Mr. Kochis stated that the local emergency planning committee donated \$5,000 to help outfit the Emergency Operations Center.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Engineer's Office Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Engineer's Office resolution to approve the construction drawings for the BER-34 FAI-CR154-0.687 Sugar Grove Road over the Hocking River Guardrail Improvement Project; see resolution 2019-11.12.f.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Family, Adult, and Children First Council Resolutions

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Family, Adult, and Children First Council resolutions:

2019-11.12.g A resolution approving an account to account transfer in a major object expense category for Fund# 7521, Subfund# 8158 Multi System Youth General Pool – Fairfield County Family Adult Children First [Family, Adult and Children First Council]

2019-11.12.h A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major category expense for the Fund# 7521 – Family Adult Children First [Family, Adult and Children First Council]

Discussion: Dr. Brown thanked Ms. Knisley, Ms. Foster, and Ms. Bails for their help with the financial aspects of FACFC.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the JFS Resolutions

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following JFS resolutions:

2019-11.12.i A resolution to approve additional appropriations by appropriating from unappropriated into a major expense object category – Fund # 2072 – Children Services Fund - Fairfield County JFS [JFS]

2019-11.12.j A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund from Sub-Fund #8182 Enhancing Permanency in Children and Families (EPIC) Program, Fairfield County Child Protective Services (CPS) Division. [JFS]

2019-11.12.k A resolution authorizing the approval of repayment of an advance to the General Fund from Fund #2843 Ohio START Program, Fairfield County Child Protective Services (CPS) Division. [JFS]

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

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Approval of the Prosecutor's Office Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Prosecutor's Office resolution accepting Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and State Victims Assistance Act (SVAA) Grants for October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, grants to be administered by the County Prosecutor; see resolution 2019-11.12.l.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Regional Planning Commission Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Regional Planning Commission resolution to approve a memorandum of understanding between the Board of Education of the Bloom-Carroll Local School District, the Fairfield County Commissioners, and the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission for sidewalk construction; see resolution 2019-11.12.m.

Discussion: Mr. Klein thanked Mr. Horacek for preparing the MOU. He believes this is the best compromise for the time being and hopefully, when the time comes, the school will comply and extend the sidewalks.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Utilities' Resolution

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Utilities' resolution to appropriate from unappropriated into a major expenditure category for fund 4300, 4438, 4535, and 5548 and to approve fund to fund transfers from such fund to the General Fund 1001 for allowable transfer of residual equity comprised of interest; see resolution 2019-11.12.n.

Discussion: Mr. Vogel thanked Mr. Horacek for helping with the court order. This is cleaning up inactive fund.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Approval of the Payment of Bills

On the motion of Jeff Fix and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following Payment of Bills resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval; see resolution 2019-11.12.o.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

Mr. Davis asked Mr. Porter if he was still able to attend the CORSA Member Meeting on December 4th. Mr. Porter stated he will attend. Mr. Davis received a memo stating the mediation efforts were not successful and the agenda for the December 4th meeting mentions the intention to issue a 30-day notice to withdraw from the MOU. He encouraged Mr. Porter to continue pushing towards a solution.

Adjournment

With no further business, on the motion of Jeff Fix and a second of Steve Davis the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 10:12 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

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Voting aye thereon: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and Dave Levacy

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____
that the November 12, 2019 minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

*Approved on November 19, 2019


Steven A. Davis
Commissioner


Dave Levacy
Commissioner


Jeff Fix
Commissioner

Rachel Elsea
Rachel Elsea, Clerk